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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /014 W
---------- 010223
R 140752Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1439
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 6371

FOR NEA/INS FROM FINN
LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

1. AS YOU KNOW, THE AMBASSADOR IS IN LONDON. WHILE THERE HE IS WORKING ON THE MANUSCRIPT OF A MAJOR ARTICLE, AND HAS ASKED THAT WE GET HIM SOME INFORMATION FROM WASHINGTON. HENCE THIS REQUEST FOR HELP.

2. THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION IN 1970 PROPOSED TO CONGRESS THE CREATION OF A NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A KIND OF GENERAL AID FOR THE SUPPORT OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES. THIS PROPOSAL WAS REINTRODUCED IN 1971, AND SUBSEQUENTLY EMERGED IN MUCH REDUCED AND ALTERED FORM AS THE FUND FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF POST SECONDARY EDUCATION, WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF H.E.W. THIS IS PRIMARILY SUPPORT FOR INNOVATION AND REEFORM; WHICH IS DIFFERENT FROM THE 1970 CONCEPTION.

3. THE AMBASSADOR'S QUESTION IS WHETHER, IN THE PAST TWO OR THREE YEARS, ANYONE--ADMINISTRATION OR CONGRESSMEN--HAS INTRODUCED OR PROPOSED SOMETHING THAT MIGHT BE DESCRIBED AS GENERAL AID TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION A LA THE ORIGINAL NATIONAL FOUNDATION IDEA.
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4. IT'S CLEAR NOTHING OF THE SORT HAS PASSED.
THE QUESTION IS WHETHER IT HAS BEEN PROPOSED, IF SO
BY WHOM, AND WHAT HAPPENED TO IT.

5. THE BEST SOURCE FOR ANSWERING THIS QUESTION
MAY BE THE OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HEW
FOR CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS. DR. BAILEY'S OFFICE AT
THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION MAY ALSO BE ABLE
TO ASSIST OR ADVISE. OR THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE SERVICE
IN THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. OR THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE
REFERENCE IN O.M.B. PAUL O'NEILL, THE ASSISTANT
DIRECTOR OF OMB WHO HANDLES EDUCATION AND AN OLD
FRIEND, MIGHT BE WILLING TO PUT ONE OF HIS MEN ONTO
THIS FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS AND COULD QUICKLY PROVIDE
THE ANSWERS.

6. AS I SAY, IT'S A BIT ACADEMIC, SINCE WE KNOW
NOTHING HAS PASSED. WHAT YOU MAY FIND IS A POT POURRI
OF PROPOSALS TO PROVIDE FEDERAL FUNDS TO COLLEGES
AND UNIVERSITIES. WHAT THE AMBASSADOR IS PARTICULARLY
INTERESTED IN ARE THE KIND WITH FEW STRINGS ATTACHED,
THE KIND THAT WOULD PROVIDE GENERAL AID FOR THE
INSTITUTIONS TO SUPPORT ONGOING OPERATIONS OR TO DO
WITH AS THEY LIKE, RATHER THAN TO EXECUTE FEDERAL AGENCY
PRIORITIES OF ONE SORT OR ANOTHER. A HAZARDOUS
DISTINCTION, BUT ONE THAT MAY SERVE TO SHORTEN YOUR
TASK.

7. WOULD YOU HAVE THE KINDNESS TO CABLE YOUR
REPLY AS QUICKLY AS YOU'RE ABLE, DIRECTLY TO
LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN, WITH AN INFO COPY TO US.

8. APOLOGIIES FOR THIS INTRUSION AND THANKS IN
ADVANCE FOR YOUR CUSTOMARY CHEERFUL AND SPEEDY
RESPONSE TO OUR OCCASIONAL EXOTIC REQUESTS. YOU WILL ALL GET
HONORARY DEGREES IN EDUCATION.SCHNEIDER

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